(d) In Delhi, AT&C loss levels are calculated for entire DISCOMs and not on consumer category-wise. 37563 number of power pilfering cases were booked during the last three years and an amount of Rs. 137.79 crores has been recovered from them.

Financial assistance for setting up Hydro-Electric Power Projects

235. SHRl JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Centre extends financial assistance for establishment of Hydro-Electric Power Projects to State Governments;

(b) if so, the details of projects received, approved, quantum of amount sanctioned and released, during the last five years, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether fresh requests have been received from any State Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the Centre's response thereto, with special reference to Karnataka Government's proposal for establishment of a Hydro-Electric Power Project in Hassan district?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRl SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) The Ministry of Power does not directly extend any financial assistance for establishment of Hydro Electric Power Projects to the State Governments. The financial assistance to the State Governments is extended through their annual plans for overall development of the State, through the Planning Commission.

(b) to (d) Questions do not arise.

Athirappilly Hydel Project

236. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether necessary clearances have been given to Athirappilly Hydel Project in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether steps were proposed to be taken for protection of environment and also the livelihood of the tribals in those areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) Athirappilly Hydro Electric Project (163 MW) was accorded Techno-Economic Clearance (TEC) by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) on 31st March, 2005 at an estimated cost of Rs. 385.6 crores at April, 2004 price level. As per information availabale with CEA, the environmental clearance for the above project was initially accorded on 20.1.1998. The environmental clearance was suspended on the basis of a judgment (17.10.2001) of the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala. The court had directed to conduct the public hearing, the public hearing was conducted by Kerala State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) on 6.2.2002. Environmental clearance for the project was restored on 10.2.2002 subject to strict compliance to certain terms and conditions.

Public Interest Litigations (PILs) were filed before the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala against the grant of environmental clearance and implementation of the project. The

Hon'ble High Court delivered its judgment on 23.3.2006 quashing the environment clearance of the project and directed the KSPCB to conduct the public hearing afresh after publishing the EIA report and complete the same within two months. The public hearing was conducted by the KSPCB on 15th June, 2006 and the report was submitted to MoEF on 22nd July, 2006. The proposal was considered by the Environment Appraisal Committee (EAC) in its meetings held on 23rd August, 2006 and 15th November, 2006. On receipt of further representations, a Sub-Committee of EAC has visited the proposed site during April, 2007 and submitted its report to Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF). MoEF has accorded fresh environmental clearance on 18.7.2007 subject to the strict compliance of certain terms and conditions.

(c) and (d) Environment clearance given by MoEF stipulates conditions for protection of environment like completion of Catchment Area Treatment plan in three years, mandatory release of water over Athirappilly falls througout the year, carrying out of Biodiversity studies etc.

The clearance also proposes steps to protect the livelihood of tribals like providing employment opportunity to the tribal settlements, to provide better amenities to existing school, to establish primary health Centre, to improve the quality of life of tribal families etc.

Power crisis in Karnataka

237. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether an assessment has been made regarding the quantity of power required in Karnataka considering the increase in demand due to urbanization and industrialization;

(b) if so, the expected shortfall quantity of power;

(c) the manner in which Government propose to overcome the shortfall and by when; and

(d) the amount of expenditure involved?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. An assessment regarding electrical requirement and peak electric demand for all the States has been made and published in the Report of 17th Electric Power Survey (March, 2007) after considering various factors influencing the electricity demand including urbanization and industrialization. According to the 17th Electric Power Survey Report (March, 2007), the peak demand and energy requirement in respect of Karnataka for the year 2011-12 is projected to be 8826 MW and 53540 Million Units respectively. Considering demand projections made in the 17th EPS, and the currently estimated availability of electricity, a shortfall of about 3000 Million Units of electrical energy and about 1100 MW of peak demand is expected during the year 2007-08 in Karnataka.

(c) and (d) To meet the projected energy and peaking requirements in Karnataka, during the course of the Eleventh Plan, a capacity addition of about 2080 MW with an estimated cost of about Rs. 7300 Crores has been envisaged. Of this, 1480 MW has been proposed under State Sector and another 600 MW under the Private Sector. In addition, Karnataka is also entitled to get a share of electricity generated by the central sector projects coming up in the Southern Reigon.